

South Monroe Sector Plan

The South Monroe Sector Plan is nearing completion. The Steering Committee completed its review of the draft plan in May, after the final community input meeting. Staff is now doing some additional work to define how the recommendations in the plan would be implemented. It is anticipated that in August or September, staff will ask the Planning Commission to review and make recommendations on the plan. The plan should be available for review and adoption by the City Commission by the end of the calendar year.

One of the key elements of the plan is Image. The Steering Committee focused on improving the image of the sector through capital improvements, such as streetscape and through providing means for property owners to enhance landscaping and otherwise improve the appearance of their businesses. A copy of the draft document with a discussion of these issues is attached.

FAMU Master Plan

The revised FAMU master plan is currently under review by the City and County staffs. The deadline for this review and for commenting back to the University is July 21, 2003. One of the major components of that review will be to assess the impacts of the proposed master plan on the services provided by the adjacent jurisdiction. From the perspective of the Fairgrounds area, one of the more interesting components of the Master Plan is the development of a hotel/convention facility at the corner of Adams/Monroe and Orange Avenue. The Master Plan Update and Future Land Use Plan are attached.

FSU University Park Initiative

Florida State University (FSU), with the support of the FSU Research Foundation and in partnership with local government and others, is seeking to develop a state-of-the-art research park to be located near the existing Innovation Park complex (project is generally located west of Lake Bradford Road, east of Capital Circle, south of Roberts Road and north of Orange Avenue). This new park, named University Park, would be designed to meet FSU's long-term space requirements for education and research and would serve to augment FSU's growing reputation as a nationally recognized research institution. It is anticipated that if this project materializes, the park would include: the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory; the Florida A&M University - Florida State University College of Engineering; the FSU Center for Advanced Power Systems; larger training facilities for the U.S. Army and Navy; and FSU's Don Veller Seminole Golf Course.

In order to implement this initiative, a number of issues must be resolved. Concerns have been expressed by some of the parties that could be affected by the development of the Park, including FAMU and the Innovation Park Board. Discussions are ongoing between the County, FSU, FAMU, the Innovation Park Board and other interested stakeholders. The County has called a meeting of stakeholders for July 15.